

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

BUSH TAX CUTS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday millions of Americans lined up at post offices all over the country to get their taxes in on time. And once again, as this poster illustrates, the average American family spent more on taxes last year than food, clothing, shelter, and transportation combined.

Once again, the average wage earner spends the first 3 hours of an 8-hour working day laboring just to pay his taxes. Once again, the equivalent of every paycheck from January to the middle of May goes just to pay taxes.

Mr. Speaker, last year we joined the President in passing much-needed tax relief for the American people. But because of opposition from the big spenders in the other body, there is a sunset clause in the law. In other words, unless we vote to make the tax cuts permanent, everyone will get a big tax hike, the marriage penalty tax will come back, the death tax will come back, the child tax credit will be cut in half, IRAs will be cut by \$3,000, and the economy will suffer.

This week we will vote on a bill to prevent this from happening. I urge my colleagues to support the effort to make the tax relief permanent for the American people.

EQUAL PAY DAY: CLOSING THE WAGE GAP

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge Congress to pass legislation that will guarantee equal pay for equal work for women. Equal pay for equal work should not even be a question in the year 2002. Yet women earn only 73 percent of wages earned by men for doing the same work with the same qualifications. For African American women, it is only 64 cents on a dollar; and for Hispanic women, 52 cents for every dollar earned by men. The time for pay equity is now. Let us do the right thing: pass equal pay for women.

TRAFICANT EXPULSION RESOLUTION INTRODUCED

(Mr. SENSENBRENNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced a resolution expelling the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) from the House of Representatives. Last week, a Federal court jury in Cleveland found the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) guilty on all 10 felony counts of a criminal indictment. Regretfully, this resolution is necessary because Mr. TRAFICANT foolishly rejected the call of the minority leader to resign. Felons belong in jail and not in Congress. He has broken the public trust by breaking the law; and if he will not voluntarily leave this House, our duty is to remove him.

Throughout my tenure in the House, I have consistently taken the position that Members who have been convicted of felonies should be expelled if they do not resign. In 1980, the House expelled Michael Meyers of Pennsylvania after he refused to resign following conviction of Abscam-related felonies. In 1995, Walter Tucker of California was convicted, initially refused to resign, and changed his mind after I introduced an expulsion resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that Mr. TRAFICANT will follow the example of Mr. Tucker and save the House the need to debate once again whether felons should continue to serve in Congress.

BROOKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Good Book teaches us that the perseverance of a faithful few can touch the lives of many for the better. During the late 1800s in New Brookland, South Carolina, a small group of men and women met together for prayer and worship. By 1902, the group had grown and the Brookland Baptist Church was founded.

For decades, the church has been a refuge of hope, and the church began a new chapter in 1971 when Rev. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., became their ninth pastor at the age of 18. Attracting large crowds of over 4,000 members, the church bought and renovated a nearby shopping center. I am honored that Earl Brown, a deacon, is my special assistant.

Today, the church serves the community through HIV-AIDS program, homeless outreach, the Black Male Conference, scouting programs, recreational and tutorial programs, and has even organized a full-service credit union. The church is one of South Carolina's largest African American congregations.

This year, as Brookland Baptist Church celebrates its 100th anniversary, it is very easy to see how this once-small group of believers has grown to make the lives of those around them immeasurably improved for the better.

DOE HAS IGNORED GEOLOGICAL PROBLEMS AT YUCCA MOUNTAIN

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, this morning I joined with hundreds of Americans opposed to the idea of shipping high-level nuclear waste across the entire country to a geologically unstable site in a Nevada desert.

Scientific evidence continues to mount showing that Yucca Mountain is not a safe or sound location for nuclear waste, and evidence also shows that the Department of Energy has ignored its geologic problems.

Even former DOE officials have agreed that the DOE has not held Yucca Mountain to high scientific standards. Dr. Victor Gilinsky, former commissioner of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, asserted in a sworn affidavit that the DOE's site suitability standard is so lax that it could be met in the basement of the DOE headquarters here in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, Americans deserve better. The site suitability of a nuclear repository should be based on science, not politics. Yucca Mountain is not a suitable site for the storage of the deadliest substance known to man. I urge Members to oppose the DOE Yucca Mountain lie.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6:30 p.m. today.

JOSEPH W. WESTMORELAND POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3960) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3719 Highway 4 in Jay, Florida, as the "Joseph W. Westmoreland Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3960

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JOSEPH W. WESTMORELAND POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3719 Highway 4 in Jay, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Joseph W. Westmoreland Post Office Building".